

Model Year Vehicles 1996 and Newer Tips

Address service engine lights, especially during your warranty period. Read your owners manual for specific warranty information

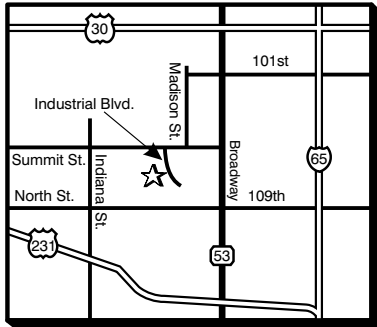
Don't clear your codes. Clearing your codes or disconnecting your battery may cause you considerable grief and gas money trying to reset your monitors.

An OBD system is made up of monitors that test different components in the vehicle. Some monitors run all the time (continuous monitors). Others only run at certain times or if special conditions are present (non-continuous monitors). If you clear your codes or disconnect your battery, your non-continuous monitors will no longer be ready and will require a variety of driving to get them to set again. Manufacturers have different drive cycles for their vehicles, and some monitors are more difficult then others to set particularly some 1996 and 1997 model year vehicles. Monitors that are not ready may cause you to be rejected from the inspection station.

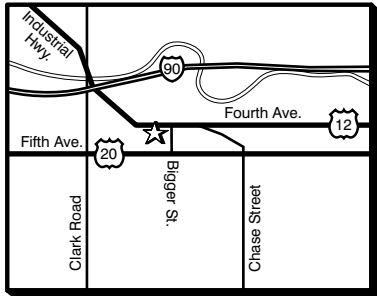
How to Avoid Being Rejected for an inspection - Don't clear your codes. If your light is on, find out what diagnostic trouble code (DTC) is causing the light to turn on, fix the problem and drive the vehicle until the light goes off. When the light goes off, you know the problem is fixed.

A simple example is your gas cap. If you forget to put your gas cap on properly, your check engine light might come on because when the OBD computer did a check of the system it saw an evaporative leak. Once you tighten your cap and the system checks itself again and doesn't see the problem anymore it will turn the light off because the issue was resolved. If you have a more difficult repair have a repair technician fix your vehicle and return it to you with the light on. Once the light goes off, you know the problem has been fixed.

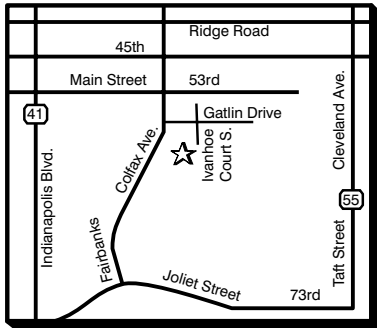
Lake County Testing Locations



Crown Point
755 N. Industrial Boulevard
From Broadway turn west onto Summit St. and turn left onto Industrial Blvd. The station is on the right. (Summit is between 101st and 109th.)



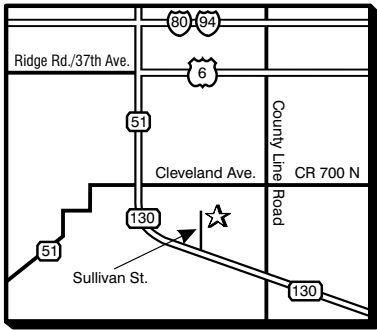
Gary
3901 W. Fourth Avenue
The station is approximately 2 miles east of the Gary/Chicago Regional Airport, between Clark Rd. and Chase St.



Griffith
232 Ivanhoe Court South
(In the Gatlin Industrial Park)
From Ridge Rd. turn south on Colfax Ave. follow to Gatlin Dr. and turn left. (Gatlin is one street south of Main St.) Take Gatlin Dr. to Ivanhoe Ct. South and turn right. The station is on the right.

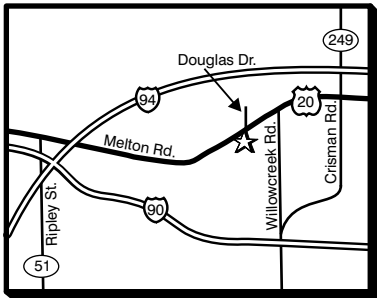


Hammond
1231 Gostlin Street
Take Columbia Ave. north to Gostlin St. and turn right. The station is on left, near the northeast corner of Columbia Ave. and Gostlin St. (Gostlin is one street north of Chicago Ave.)

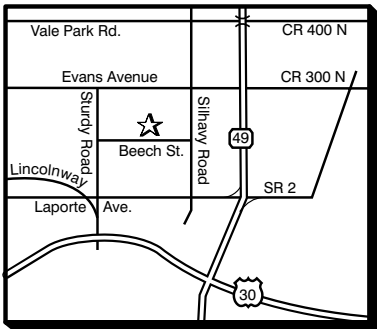


Hobart
325 Sullivan Street
(In the Monarch Industrial Park) Sullivan St. is off Route 130, just west of County Line Rd.

Porter County Testing Locations

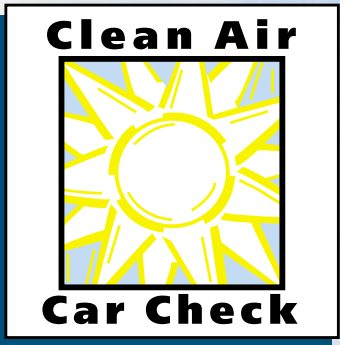


Portage
5777 Melton Road (US 20)
The station is just west of Willowcreek Rd., across from Douglas Dr.



Valparaiso
2503 Beech Street
From the 49 bypass exit Route 2 heading west. Turn right at the light (Silhavy Rd.) and left onto Beech St. (Beech St. is just south of the Grand Trunk R/R tracks.)

For more information, call toll-free
1-888-240-1684



Clean Air Car Check
Program Information and Station Locations

Hours Of Operation

The Clean Air Car Check stations are open:
Monday and Wednesday 8 am - 7 pm
Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 8 am - 5 pm
Saturday 8 am - 1 pm

For more information, call toll-free
1-888-240-1684

Who Needs To Be Tested?

Lake and Porter counties require emissions tests and tampering inspections every two years for 1976 and newer passenger vehicles and trucks with a gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR) of 9,000 lbs. or less. Auto manufacturers typically print the GVWR on the driver's side doorjamb. It is not the same as the actual weight of the vehicle.

When?

Even numbered model year vehicles are due for testing in even numbered calendar years. Odd numbered model year vehicles are due for testing in odd numbered calendar years. The four newest model years are exempt from testing.

Your vehicle model year is:	Your vehicle test year is:
1976, 78, 80, 82, 84, 86, 88, 90, 92, 94, 96, 98, 2000	2004
1977, 79, 81, 83, 85, 87, 89, 91, 93, 95, 97, 99, 2001	2005
1976, 78, 80, 82, 84, 86, 88, 90, 92, 94, 96, 98, 2000, 2002	2006
1977, 79, 81, 83, 85, 87, 89, 91, 93, 95, 97, 99, 2001, 2003	2007

Beat the rush and test early. Your vehicle can be inspected as early as October the year before it is due to be tested.

How We Test

STEP 1 Gas Cap Pressure Check



The gas cap is tested to make sure it holds pressure. A properly functioning gas cap keeps fuel vapors from escaping. Fuel evaporation is a major cause of ground level smog. A properly functioning gas cap improves gas mileage by preventing fuel waste.

STEP 2 Emissions Test

The next step is the emissions test. Depending on the age of the vehicle, one of the following three test types is selected.



1: On Board Diagnostics (OBD)

The test consists of downloading data from the car's computer to check for emissions equipment malfunctions.



2: Inspection and Maintenance (I/M 93)

The vehicle is placed on a treadmill that simulates driving on a road. All of the tailpipe emissions are captured and analyzed to evaluate the vehicle's emissions equipment function.



3: Single Idle Speed (BAR 90)

BAR 90: A probe is inserted into the vehicle's tailpipe to sample emissions at idle. A sensor bag is placed on the hood to measure engine speed.

STEP 3 Vehicle Inspection Report



Once the vehicle is tested a Vehicle Inspection Report is produced with the results. If your vehicle failed additional materials will be provided to assist you in repairing your vehicle prior to retest

Testing Tips

Check to make sure you have the proper gas cap with a good seal on your vehicle. If you have a locking cap, please be sure to bring the key with you to the test station.

Don't overfill or "top off" your gas tank. Resist the impulse to get just a little bit more into the tank after the nozzle clicks off. The excess gas does not have anywhere to expand so it saturates a part of the emissions control system resulting in increased emissions. Topping off doesn't help the air, your vehicle or your wallet.

Make sure your tires are properly inflated. Under inflation reduces fuel economy and increases emissions. Over inflation leads to premature tire wear and reduced handling and traction.

Check the integrity of your exhaust system. Make sure that your exhaust system is intact and leak free.

Follow recommended maintenance schedules for your vehicle. Read your owner's manual and follow maintenance guidelines. Your vehicle will perform more efficiently.

Avoid the rush and test early. Vehicles can be inspected as early as October the year before it is due to be tested. October, November, December and January are typically very low volume months.

Avoid the busiest days of the month. Registrations expire on the 15th and the last day of the month. Typically a day or two before and after, are very high volume times. Call our toll-free hotline at 1-888-240-1684 before you leave to check the wait time.

Call us before purchasing a used vehicle. Don't get stuck with a car you can't plate! Call our toll-free hotline with the vehicle identification number (VIN) of the vehicle, and we will check its test history.

Model Year Vehicles 1976-1995 Testing Tips

Fully warm up your vehicle before testing. If possible, run your vehicle at highway speed for at least 15 minutes prior to visiting an inspection station.

Make sure your brakes are in good condition. Poor brakes are not only a safety hazard but also make the vehicle very difficult to test on the equipment and may cause the vehicle to be rejected. If you have a rear wheel drive vehicle, you must have functioning rear brakes.

Front-wheel drive vehicles: Make sure the front suspension is properly aligned. Poor front end alignment will make the vehicle difficult to test and may cause the vehicle to be rejected.